AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please add the following section heading after paragraph **[0001]**

BACKGROUND

Please add the following section headings and paragraphs after paragraph [0003]:

BRIEF SUMMARY

[0003.1] In accordance with aspects of the exemplary embodiment a multifunction printed sheets interface system and method of directing printed sheets are provided. In one aspect, the multifunction printed sheets interface system includes plural sheet input areas, plural sheet outputs areas, a sheet position sensing system, and a sheet transporting system. The sheet transporting system includes independently operable sheet transports and provides selectable sheet translation to selectably transport sheets from selected ones of the plural sheet input areas to selected ones of the plural sheet outputs areas. The sheet transports provide variable angle driving for selectable sheet rotation and translation of selected sheets.

[0003.2] In another aspect, a system includes a plurality of printers, a plurality of sheet processing systems, and a multifunction printed sheets interface system. The interface system includes a plurality of sheet input areas which receive printed sheets from the plurality of printers, a plurality of sheet outputs areas which provide plural outputs to different ones of the sheet processing systems, a sheet position sensing system, and a sheet transporting system. The sheet transporting system provides selectable sheet translation to selectably transport sheets from selected ones of the plural sheet input areas to selected ones of the plural sheet outputs areas so as to provide selectable sheet feeding from selected printers to selected sheet processing systems.

[0003.3] In another aspect, the method includes printing sheets on a plurality of printers and feeding the printed sheets from the plurality of printers to a plurality of respective input areas of a printed sheets interface system. The printed sheets are transported from the input areas to selected ones of a plurality of output areas of the printed sheets interface system with a plurality of sheet transports. A position of the printed sheets is sensed during transporting.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

[0003.4] FIGURE 1 is a schematic top view of one example of the subject multifunction printed sheets interface system.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Please delete paragraph **[0017]**, which starts with "Fig. 1 (the Figure) . . ."

Please replace paragraph **[0018]** with the following amended paragraph.

[0018] Describing now in further detail this exemplary embodiment ~~of the Figure~~, there is shown in FIGURE 1 a large area planar multifunction printed sheets interface system 10, adapted to receive an input of printed sheets 14 from schematically illustrated, otherwise conventional, printers P1, P2, P3, all feeding their printed sheets outputs to selectable different input positions on this exemplary printed sheets interface system 10. The system 10 includes a variably selectable sheet transporting system, here comprising generally planar sheet feeding table 12 larger than the dimensions of any sheet 14 to be fed thereon, with variably selectable inputs P11, P12, and/or P13 from the printers P1, P2, and/or P3, and outputs F11, F12, in this example, to conventional selectable and repositionable finisher units F1 and/or F2. The unit 10 has, over the table 12 here, a multiplicity of spaced apart and independently operable variable sheet feeding direction and sheet feeding velocity sheet transports. Those transports are provided in this example by the above-described SNIPS patent U.S. 6,059,284 system 15 (incorporated by reference), independently controlled by a controller

100 to drive the sheets from any input to any output, with or without sheet rotation, by their variable angle driving. The SNIPS spacings are closer than the smallest sheet to be fed. The controller 100 is also operatively connected to a large area sheet position ~~sensor~~ <u>sensing system</u> 110 distributed over the table 12 area. The controller 100 may also be operatively connected to the clustered printers P1, P2, and P3, and/or the optional finisher units F1 and F2. The number of sheet inputs and outputs, and their locations, which can be provided by the unit 10 is completely flexible. Only the software, not the hardware, need be changed for such different applications and functions.

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